

BUILDING RECORDING IN 2010

SOMERSET VERNACULAR BUILDING GROUP

INTRODUCTION

During the year the remaining surveys of the Stogursey Project were completed and the work of preparing the book commenced. In parallel, work started on the Winscombe Project and eleven houses were surveyed. In addition, 16 other very varied properties both in character and date were surveyed elsewhere in the county including two in Trent, Dorset (which had been Somerset until 1896). As will be seen from the summaries very many interesting features were revealed. In keeping with our general practice, copies of reports and survey drawings were deposited in the Somerset Archives (now at the Somerset Heritage Centre) and in the National Monuments Record, Swindon.

SURVEYS

Aller, Lion House and The Old Rectory ST 399 293

A former rectory now two separate houses (Fig. 1). Much of the earlier building has been lost but remnants of an elaborate roof structure including arch-braced, jointed-cruck trusses and windbraces, moulded beams, moulded doorways, moulded windows and early glass indicate a 15th-century period of build. The north end of the house was then two-storeys and comprised a parlour and a principal chamber over – access to the latter being by a stair turret with two integral garderobes. The large two-centred moulded Ham stone arch (c. 1400) may have



Fig. 1 Aller, Old Rectory and Lion House, stair/garderobe turret at left hand side (photo John Rickard)

given access to a chapel wing or an oriel. The central and southern parts of the house probably contained the hall and service rooms. A four-bay barn within the curtilage is likely to have been a Tithe Barn. It has jointed-cruck and arch-braced trusses, perhaps dating from the 16th century.

Allowenshay, Carter's and Shepherd's Cottages ST 393 350

Listed (dated 1715), this building is constructed of local stone rubble with Ham stone ashlar dressings. It was built as a single three-room plan property of one and a half-storeys in the early 16th century, comprising an unheated service room with opposing doorways but no defined cross passage, an open hall

with a smoke hood and an unheated inner room, with solar over, defined by a plank and muntin partition topped by a multiple-moulded head beam rising into a post and truss framework for the upper partition. Stairs from the hall via a door, now blocked, in the partition accessed the solar floor. In the late 16th century the six-panel framed ceiling (simple flat 7cm chamfers with cyma stops) with chamber over was inserted into the hall and accessed by newel stairs rising from it. Early to mid 17th-century fireplaces were inserted at both gable ends; a large inglenook with oven converted the service room to a kitchen which was ceiled, creating a chamber above. About 1800 the walls were raised and a new roof superimposed over the original post and truss construction. In 1914 the land owner, John Poulett, Baron of Hinton St George, carried out extensive alterations including the removal of the hall smoke hood and associated stairs, replacing the fireplace with his own bricks embossed with an earl's coronet and the letter 'P'. He added an addition at the north gable enabling the property to be divided into two cottages.

Blagdon, Honeysuckle House, Church Street ST 505 589

This one and a half-storey, two-unit house dates from the 17th century and has a roof construction with two trusses with extended collars, a feature unusual for Somerset but relatively common in South Gloucestershire, which suggests a former dormer window. A service wing was added later in the century and in the 18th century the house was substantially upgraded and given a more conventional appearance.

Charlton Mackrell, The Farmstead, Lytes Cary Manor ST 533 265

Late in the 16th or early 17th century the farmstead was developed with the large threshing barn as the principal feature. Over the following centuries it was further developed – the bulk of the building occurring during the second half of the 18th century. These later buildings formed a comprehensive high-quality beef stock-rearing/fattening unit. (This survey was undertaken in conjunction with Ms Judith Teasdale of Teasdale Environmental Design on behalf of the National Trust.)

Combe St Nicholas, Fforden, Wadeford ST 309 106

This house was originally surveyed by the Group in 2004. One of the features of the house was the diaper pattern of black chert and white calcareous grit on the fireplace wall in the cross passage (Fig. 2). In 2010 the external pebble-dash render was stripped to undertake structural repairs, particularly to the front wall of the house, and this revealed that the front wall had been built using the black and white stones to create a chequer pattern. Sadly only an estimated 15% of the wall retains this pattern, the remainder having been subject to many phases of alteration or repair.



Fig. 2 Combe St Nicholas, Chequerwork on the front wall at Fforden (photo John Rickard)

Cudworth, Ware Farmhouse (formerly Higher Ware) ST 382 105

Smoke-blackened, jointed-cruck trusses indicate a 15th-century cob-walled house which comprised an open hall (including a passageway) and service room (Fig. 3). A rare wind-eye, shuttered internally, set high in the north wall (there had probably been another in the south wall) would have dispersed the smoke. In the 16th century a smoke-bay with oven and curing chamber was built at the west gable and, later in the century, a fireplace/stack was built in the hall and the cross-passage defined. A framed ceiling supported a first floor chamber and stairs were also built. Major changes occurred in the late 18th/early 19th century which included the rebuilding of the cob walls in stone and subsequent alterations to roof level and windows. It had been part of the Cudworth manor estate which was bought by John Poulett of



*Fig. 3 Cudworth, Ware Farmhouse
(photo John Rickard)*

Hinton St George in 1791 (*Somerset Complete Guide* – Robin Bush, 1994). Subsequently substantial alterations followed including the rebuilding of the south walls and the east gable and the addition of a threshing barn and water mill.

Ditcheat, Yew Tree Cottage, Alhampton ST 627 347

An open-hall house with smoke-blackened roof structure comprising trusses with curved feet – probably denoting a late 15th-century date of build of which only the open-hall survives. A post-and-truss structure independent of the walls suggests that the walls originally had been of cob. Late in the 16th century a smoke-bay was inserted at the east gable; a parlour wing was added in the 17th century and included bead-moulded ceiling joists and a beam with 'egg and dart' enrichment. Later, the low end (which might have been a byre?) was converted to two cottages. (Note: three other late-medieval houses in Alhampton have trusses with curved feet.)

East Pennard, Lower Huxham Farm ST 592 359

Listed as late 16th century. The plan is three rooms in line with wings and a central cross passage. It is conjectured that the present house encompasses remnants of a single-storey open-hall house dating from the late 15th or early 16th century on the basis of a 70cm wall thickness and the deep four-centred head and 10cm chamfers of the Doulling stone gable hall doorway. In the 16th century the hall hearth was replaced by a Doulling stone fireplace comprising a stone lintel, with soffit cut to a four-centred head, and orthostatic jambs; both had 8cm chamfers, those on the jambs terminating in bull-nosed stops. A first floor solar may have been added, accessed by stairs

in the hall. A thick wall in the south-west corner indicates a former inner room or parlour. About 1600 the dwelling was upgraded to certainly provide a plan of hall, cross passage and kitchen; the walls and the roof were raised to create two storeys, and new mullioned windows and fireplaces were inserted in the parlour and the kitchen, this latter with oven and curing chamber. The inserted upper floor contained an elaborately moulded and chequered framed ceiling over the hall. In the mid 19th century both gable ends were extended, providing a wring house/cider cellar and a cheese room, and the cross passage widened to take a new flight of stairs. The east wing evolved in the 20th century

Henstridge, London House, High Street ST 725 197

Being relatively remote in the south east of Somerset, no other buildings have hitherto been researched in this locality by the Group. This is a prominent house in the centre of what had been the busy commercial High Street which during the 19th century was used as two shops. It had been of two-storeys with attics and comprised parlour, service room and kitchen and probably dates from the mid 17th century; the particular features of note which support this date are a bedroom fireplace with a stone surround with unusually ornate vase stops with a four-centred head and an ogee-moulded stone mantel shelf, also partitions having wide posts with ogee mouldings and panels with shallow bead mouldings. There are two flights of winding stairs to the attic which contains tie-and-collar roof trusses and purlins, the trusses braced and fixed to the tie-beams with iron reinforcing plate. A 'firemark', fitted high on the front wall is inscribed 'AD1714 (UN)ION' together with clasped hands (found to have been issued by the Union Assurance Society).

Lovington, Priory Farm House, Wheathill, East Lydford ST 582 308

Wall thicknesses (95cm) together with reserved chamfered Doulling stone mouldings to fireplaces and mullioned windows indicate a 16th-century build; the house then appears to have been L-shaped, comprised two-storeys and included a hall, cross-passage, parlour and kitchen – suggesting a farmhouse of some status. In the early 17th century the hall was upgraded having a high four-panel, deeply chamfered framed ceiling the walls were

raised and a new roof built having cambered collars and tie-beams with cyma stops and three tiers of butt-purlins. Doubling stone ovolo-moulded, mullioned windows and surrounds were then added. Later in the 17th century a dairy and underground cellar were built. In the 18th century there were further extensive additions with fittings commensurate with higher status.

North Petherton, 16/18, Hammet Street ST 289 329

The smoke blackened roof structure indicates that the properties (taken together) comprised an open-hall house with a solar chamber and service end. Originally of cob and thatch it probably dates from the 15th century. A lateral stack/fireplace and upper floor supported on beams and joists, all with chamfers and step and run-out stops, was inserted in the mid 16th century and although a fireplace was inserted in the service room it did not have a ceiling at that time. Also, in that period a two-storey addition was built onto the west gable – perhaps as a separate cottage with workshop at the rear? Early in the 19th century the building was substantially altered to create two/three separate dwellings.

Stogursey, The Almshouses, Lime Street ST 204 429

This almshouse was originally built for six poor women about 1870. The building is largely rendered, probably over local rubble blue lias stone, with ashlar quoins. It comprises six one and a half-storey terraced dwellings each with two rooms on the ground floor and rooms above. Alterations in 1981 extended the dwellings on the north side.

Stogursey, The Almshouses, Saint Andrew's Road ST 203 428

The almshouses, at the junction of St. Andrew's Road and Castle Street, were built in 1821 to provide accommodation for three poor men. They are currently rendered, probably over local rubble lias stone, with a tiled roof. Each of the three terraced dwellings had two ground floor rooms, the entrance door opening directly into each front room, with rooms above and a group of in-line outhouses. The building was extensively remodelled in 1981 to provide four dwellings. The 'Ding Darling Bell', rescued from the 16th-century almshouse in the town



Fig. 4 Stogursey, Lime Street almshouses (photo Mike Hargreaves)



Fig. 5 Stogursey, The Ding Darling Bell (photo John Rickard)

square, is mounted on the roof of this building and still rung twice daily.

Stogursey, Cathanger Farmhouse, Cathanger ST 218 422

Considered to be on the site of the capital message of Cathanger manor, this is a one and a half-storey house built of local lias stone, now divided into two dwellings, Cleeve Cottage and Moore's Cottage. The

early plan form seems to be the traditional three rooms and cross passage plan with a cross wing at the western end and later additions to the north and east. However, an earlier survey in 1994 surmised that this may be a rare example of a medieval long house with the byre at the exceptionally long 'low end' incorporating the downward slope of the land. Then the domestic accommodation would have comprised an open hall and an inner room with a solar above. Certainly the walls of the hall and the south wall of the low end have a late medieval thickness. A major refurbishment appears to have taken place in the 16th century; cooking facilities seem to have been moved to the inner room creating a kitchen, the new hall fireplace has a reused cambered collar from a 15th-century arch-braced roof as a lintel whilst a jamb on it has a half-pyramid stop. At the same time the former byre was replaced by a parlour with an impressive six-panel framed ceiling exhibiting deep chamfers and step/ogee moulding. A projecting south wing with wall thicknesses suggesting a 16th or 17th-century date was also built, possibly as a brewhouse. General 'gentrification' occurred in the 18th century creating a drawing room in the brewhouse with a high corniced ceiling, whilst the wall beams of the framed ceiling in the parlour were plastered and decorated with a frieze depicting birds interspersed with a rose motif (Fig. 6). On the division of the property a fireplace and oven were inserted in the parlour. No evidence of an early roof remains; the extant one dates to the early 17th century.

Stogursey, The Old Vicarage, 3 Church Street ST 205 429

In 1487 it is documented that Eton College (lords of the manor) 'provided a house for the Vicar'. A 1774 map shows a property in this location marked 'Vicars'. The L-shaped plan is a two-room range (hall and parlour) and cross passage fronting the street and church with a north wing (kitchen, service rooms and turret stairs) alongside a former roadway. Peculiarly, there is no evidence of a room on the east side of the cross passage where the ground falls away. A much modified fire place in the hall has lias stone jambs with hollow chamfers terminating at the base in half-pyramid stops; this suggests a late 15th century or early 16th-century date. The consistent wall thickness, 77cm, in the range and wing support this date and the three fireplaces suggest that the building was always of two-storées. The front range



Fig. 6 Cathanger, framed ceiling and frieze (photo, John Rickard)

experienced an extensive upgrade early in the 17th century (proportions of the rooms, the windows, the beams, the fireplace and the new roof). At the same time a two-storey extension, with walls of 60cm, was built into the angle of the house.

Stogursey, Steyning Manor North ST 219 428

This is possibly the domestic end of a long house, but more likely a two-room dwelling; evidence of smoke blackening confirms an open hall and inner room with a solar over it accessed by a steep stair or ladder. A shallow, peaked-headed entry door with diagonal stops on the jambs suggests an early 15th-century build. Major refurbishment occurred to the open hall in the early 16th century; the hall was ceiled, the beams have 14cm chamfers with step-and-run-out stops; a winder stair was inserted to access the upper floor; a fireplace was inserted with an additional fireplace above in the hall chamber; mullioned wooden windows were added to these two rooms: they and their shutter pintles remain. The third in-line room, the kitchen, has walls of a similar thickness to the house and may have been created from the byre. The beams, with 12cm chamfers, suggest a later development. A large fireplace with associated curing chamber, corn drying kiln and bread oven was inserted against the gable wall. Most importantly a stair turret was constructed containing a newel stair of solid baulk timber (Fig. 7). The roof over this section has collar and tie-beam trusses, tapering principals and three strings of in-line purlins. In the 19th century a corridor was built to link this property with Steyning Manor South.



Fig. 7 Stogursey, Baulk timber stair at Steyning Manor North (photo John Rickard)



Fig. 8 Stogursey, Steyning Manor South. Ornate plasterwork on overmantel and ceiling beams (photo, John Rickard)

Stogursey, Steyning Manor South ST 219 428

This was built as a complete house 6m south of the old manor house. The symmetrical double-pile four-room plan is unusually progressive for the 17th-century date attributed to its gabled external form and internal features. The central entrance is through a storied porch and a fine, nailed door in a four-centred, moulded and elegantly stopped door frame. This probably led to a cross passage, now incorporated into a room with mid 17th-century panelling and ornate high-relief plasterwork cladding to the ceiling beams (Fig. 8) and an ornamental overmantel over a bolection-moulded wooden chimney piece suggesting refurbishment in the late 17th century with good quality joinery. Double doors of a similar date separate it from the dining-parlour. This is lined with bolection-moulded panelling; the chimney piece is similar and surmounted by a painted panel. The central stair hall contains a dog-leg staircase with heavy, plain newels, turned balusters and an unusual double-height balustrade on the landing; a panelled door with an open grill at the top encloses the stair top and it and the balustrade are surmounted by two rails tipped with iron spikes suggesting a need to make this floor secure. The rooms to either side of the stair hall have four-centred arched timber moulded door frames, but the arrangement of these doors is not typical of four-room plan houses suggesting that the old house provided the service facilities.

Stogursey, Steyning Manor Farm ST 219 428

The roof of the four-bay threshing barn is of jointed-

cruck construction and dates from the 15th century. About 1796 there is reference to 'a barn, stables, other outhouses, courts and yards.' The horse-engine house, hack stables and wagon house are depicted on the 1841 Tithe Map, probably dating from 1800. By the 1886 OS Map a cow shed, wagon house/horse stables and an outdoor horse-engine had been added.

Stringston, Honibere Farm, Lilstock ST 182 435

It is said that the house had been burnt and substantially rebuilt, probably during the second half of the 19th century. Remnants of thicker walls suggest that the earlier house may have comprised two rooms. The property had belonged to John Acland of Fairfield, Stogursey and in c. 1770 it totalled 159 acres with a well established farmstead and gardens (SRO ref. DD/AH66/11). A comprehensive set of buildings were shown on the 1887 OS map which, from surviving evidence, included stables, cart shed, cow-sheds, threshing barn, wagon-horse stables, pigsties and chicken houses.

Tintinhull, Batcombe House, Head Street ST 497 193

Detailed on the John Napper map, the house is constructed of roughly cut and squared Ham stone with ashlar dressings and has a traditional three-unit and cross passage plan. A build of the early 16th century is suggested by the slightly cambered beams (13cm chamfers), the fire-hood, the trusses T1 and 3 (collar-beam and trusses set well below the present roof line) and the angle of the ceiling joists (possible

herring-boning). It then comprised a one and a half-storey east end which included the hall, inner room and chambers above accessed by winding stairs from the hall. The west end, consisting of cross passage and service room, was open to the roof. Early in the 17th century a fireplace with a four-centred head inscribed with apotropaic (anti-witch) marks was inserted in the fire-hood hearth of the hall. The west end was ceiled, using 6cm chamfered beams with cyma stops, and the north front refenestrated with mullioned windows. In the 19th century the walls and roof were raised, but the thatch retained, a second fireplace was installed in the west gable wall and the hall fireplace infilled with brickwork. A well, partially covered by the north front hall wall, is visible today, possibly indicating earlier development of this site.

Trent (Dorset), Hummer Farmhouse, Hummer ST 589 197

A substantial multi-phase farmhouse deserving of its Grade II* listing (Fig. 9). In the 15th century it was single-storey and comprised an inner room, open hall, service room and cross-passage with a lateral stack at the back of the hall and a smoke bay in the service room. There may have been a solar over the inner room. In the 16th century additional fireplaces, curing chamber and winding stairs were inserted as was an upper floor. Refronting also occurred including ground-floor Ham stone mullioned windows and four-centred moulded Ham stone doorway and eye-brow dormers in the thatch roof. In the 17th century a dairy/cheese room with cheese loft was added and also servants' attic accommodation. The 18th century saw the walls and roof being raised and first-floor mullioned windows inserted. Also in this period, a cider house, apple-loft and cart-shed were added. (Note: internally, a 12th-century elaborately moulded stone doorway (Fig. 10) has probably been brought from the site of a chapel in nearby Adber.) The holding totalled 63 acres in 1839, 125 acres in 1851 and 132 acres between 1861 and 1891.

Trent (Dorset), Rigg Lane Farmhouse ST 597 187

A 15th-century house, originally probably of cob and comprising a two-bay open hall encompassing the later cross-passage, plus a service room and inner room. The roof structure in the area of the hall is heavily smoke-blackened. The structure over the other rooms was sooted to a lesser degree indicating that they would have been unheated but only separated from the hall by low, head-height,



Fig. 9 Trent, Hummer Farmhouse (photo, John Rickard)



Fig. 10 Trent, Hummer Farmhouse, 12th-century stone doorway (photo, John Rickard)

partitions. The roof structure comprises jointed-crucc trusses with trenced purlins, three tiers of trenced purlins and one tier of wind-braces. Late in the 16th century the hall-stack/fireplace, stairs and the framed ceiling were inserted in the hall but the rooms either side may have remained open to the roof and not ceiled until the late 17th century. The cob walls were replaced with stone perhaps in the 19th century.

Wells, 19, 21, 21A, St. John's Street ST 548 454

There are 'clean' trusses with curved-feet, windbraces and a sequence of carpenter's marks, also

diagonal stops on a doorway, all suggesting that these houses had been part of a much longer open-hall house, probably dating from the 15/16th century and which had fireplaces/stacks from the start. Cyma stops on the beams indicate that the upper floors were inserted in the early 17th century.

Winscombe, The Cottage by the Church, Church Lane ST 412 568

The property appears on the Dean and Chapter Map 1792, and on the Tithe Map 1839, as a single range. Today it is one and a half storeys high with two ranges in double-pile form (Fig. 11). Built in the first half of the 18th century it comprised a kitchen-living room and an unheated service room. The walls of these rooms have an internal 'batter', diminishing in a curve from 65cm thickness at floor level to 53cm at the ceiling. This is more common in industrial buildings but the fireplace, beams and gable window lead us to suggest that it has always had a domestic purpose. The rear range dates from the mid 19th century with external quoins and window openings constructed in brick. The original range was probably reroofed, and clad in double Roman tiles to accord with this, and the thatch removed. More modern, cavity wall, extensions with a floor level some 50cm below the rest of the building allow for the down hill slope. The front elevation is enhanced by three small gables over the first floor windows. The walls are part rendered and colour washed.



Fig. 11 Winscombe, The Cottage by the Church (photo, John Rickard)

Winscombe, 92, Church Road ST 414 570

The house is of two storeys and has three rooms in each of two parallel ranges (Fig. 12). All walls are



Fig. 12 Winscombe, Watcombe, 92, Church Road (photo, John Rickard)

rendered and the roof is clad with double Roman tiles. The house has been extensively changed. It appears to have originated as a mid 18th century, one and a half story dwelling which is evidenced in one remaining room, which probably had a lean-to against the north wall. At this time it was probably thatched. Shortly after construction the house was extended with a further room and lean-to against the east gable and this was further extended in the 19th century. Later there were significant alterations to the north range, raising the eaves and providing an upper floor over the lean-to. In the mid 20th century the building underwent a major refit and upgrading to create the house much as seen today, including the installation of features like the north porch, larger windows and the enlargement of rooms by the removal of walls.

Winscombe, Springfield and Tower House, Church Road ST 413 570

This Italianate style villa has a cross-wing that breaks with the symmetrical style of earlier villas (Fig. 13). The builder has also introduced a colour variation by using the red conglomerate sandstone (possibly from an earlier building on the site) up to the string and grey carboniferous limestone above, topping it off with a plain Bath stone frieze which matches the window dressings, just below the deep eaves. The windows to the cross-wing are round-headed on the upper floors and the top-floor rooms were for servants. The original plan shows three ground-floor rooms fronting the road and a kitchen behind the probable library in the cross-wing. The stair hall in this house is surprisingly narrow. The 1792 and Tithe maps show a house on the plot, however in 1850 the



Fig. 13 Winscombe, Springfield to left Tower House to right, originally one house (photo John Rickard)



Fig. 14 Winscombe, Tower House, now a separate dwelling (photo Mike Hargreaves)

house was purchased by Thomas Fry and it seems he demolished the existing property and built Springfield. The tower is made of unsquared limestone and was probably added after a new owner arrived in 1910 (Fig. 14). The house was divided in 1954, the northern part being named Tower House.

Winscombe, Longfield House ST 423 573

The two-storey house has a symmetrical south front of six-over-six sash windows on the upper floor and a pair of canted bays either side of the front door (Fig. 15). There is a full-height wing on the rear creating an L-plan. A one and a half-storey lean-to fills the remainder of the north wall. An open-well staircase with quarter landings has a simple newel, stick balusters and a ramped mahogany handrail. Ceilings at 3m height in the principal lower rooms

and 2.75m on the upper floor give an airy feel to the interior. The lean-to provided servant accommodation over a scullery or wash house and was fitted with a narrow stair. The roof structure is of oak tie-beam trusses with tenoned apices and two tiers of butt purlins. This roof is unusual because it is oak whereas almost all houses in this area at this period are of elm; also that is a 17th-century style of construction. The house is likely to have been built for a prosperous family and its decorative and constructional features suggest a late 18th-century date. This is supported by the map prepared for the Dean and Chapter of Wells that shows nothing on the site in 1792 while a building is shown on the Tithe Map of 1839



Fig. 15 Winscombe, Longfield House south elevation (photo, John Rickard)

Winscombe, 10 and 11, The Green ST 421 575

Figure 16 mainly shows No. 11, with recently tiled roof, which now has a lean-to extension on the front elevation. These two one and a half-storey properties are in a short terrace of double-pile plan dwellings with each range being of the same dimension between front and back walls and having the central and exterior walls of the same thickness. Although under two roof ranges, these two properties have interlocking L plans and seem to have gables offset by about 2.5m. In No.10 the roof structure of the rear range has a diagonally set ridge-piece and partially staggered purlins with mortice and tenon joints, suggesting late 18th-century construction. All the other roofs have been replaced over time. Documentary records reveal that the residents of the Poor House, which stood close to the church, were



Fig. 16 Winscombe, No 11 in centre and 10 to left (photo John Rickard)

moved to this site in 1799 which was devoid of buildings according to the 1792 map. It is possible that a building was here by c. 1795 and that it was developed to accommodate the 14 Poor House inhabitants. The simplest arrangement would have been to have seven one-up-one-down units in each range but it is unclear how that can be linked with the current division of the terrace. In 1838 the Poor were transferred to the Union workhouse at Axbridge.

Winscombe, 46 Woodborough Road ST 419 576

The house appears on the 1839 Tithe Map and the roof structure, elm with collar trusses, indicates an early 19th-century build. The dwelling unifies several one and a half-storey units arranged in line following the curve of the road with a gable lean-to on the south west end and a single-storey building connecting with it. The original build was a two room dwelling with only one room heated, now in the centre of the property, but by 1884 most of the units were present. All elevations are rendered or painted, covering the rubble walls. Some windows have brick surrounds with shallow arched heads. The property has had several changes during the late 20th century.

Winscombe, Primrose Cottage ST 420 579

The house originated as a two-storey, two-room, central entry house (possibly created from an earlier

outbuilding) under a shallow pitched roof of mid to late 18th-century construction (Fig. 17). A similar sized early 20th-century range is at the rear and there is a further single-storey addition. The front elevation is of exposed masonry showing a random rubble wall of local conglomerate stone with shallow arched heads to window openings. The rear range is brick built.



Fig. 17 Winscombe, Primrose Cottage front elevation (photo John Rickard)

Winscombe, Old Board Farm ST 420 578

The main range of the house is of two storeys with a southern two-storey wing comprising three rooms. There is a single-storey modern extension adjoining the north of the house. The house is rendered (over red sandstone and conglomerate random rubble walls) and has a double Roman tiled roof with two brick chimney stacks. The house has been extensively modernised. The limited evidence suggests that it originated in the late 17th century as a one and a half-storey, two-unit house comprising a living room and unheated service room and was extended to the rear and south in the 18th century. The property was reroofed and further upgraded in the 19th century.

Winscombe, Walnut Tree Cottage, Sandford ST 421 595

The house was built as a one and a half-storey, three-unit, cross-passage dwelling in the 17th century (Fig. 18). The rear doorway is typically wide and has an ovolo-moulded frame and above is an ovolo-mullioned three-light window from that period. In the rear lean-to, which is of later date than the house, there is a cross-planked and chequer-pattern nailed

door on long strap hinges which may have been the original front door. In the late 18th century the hall and inner room were remodelled, raising the ceilings. The gable wall of the inner room was panelled overall with frames and fielded panels behind which were a full set of cupboards; a fireplace, now reduced to a small tiled hearth, is in the centre. The current stairs, replacing the original stairs near the main fireplace, are a straight flight situated in the cross passage and were probably inserted in the 20th century when the house is known to have been in dual occupancy.



Fig. 18 Winscombe, Walnut Tree Cottage front elevation (photo John Rickard)

Winscombe, Sandford House, Sandford ST 418 596

The house has a two-storey, main east–west range with a lean-to on the west and a two-storey northern wing set at an angle to the main range (Fig. 19). The house is rendered over local random conglomerate stone walls and the roof is clad with pantiles. The gabled ends of the main house are finished with Ham stone coping stones, and a former single-storey farm building has been partly incorporated into the house. It originated as a two-room, central entry house in the late 16th century, extended to the west in the early 17th century. Alterations in the late 18th/early 19th centuries included the rear wing and major new internal arrangements.

Winscombe, Dalecroft, Greenhill Road, ST 430 598

This two and a half-storey house has a one and a half-storey lean-to under a catslide roof to the rear (Fig. 20). The windows are arranged in a symmetrical manner and above the central upper window is a datestone for 1811. Until 2005 the house had a



Fig. 19 Winscombe, Sandford House, south elevation (photo Mike Hargreaves)

thatched roof but all the main roof has been replaced. The remaining roof of the catslide has tusk-tenoned purlins signalling late 18th/early 19th-century construction. The upper floor is reached by stairs in a rear hall which have a generously dimensioned turned newel and balusters stylistically belonging to the late 19th century. This stair is thought to have replaced a straight flight when a small extension was added to the rear. It is likely that fireplaces and doors were also replaced at this time. Access to the attic space was through a door in the rear wall of the main range reached by a stair now gone. The attic walls were all plastered and the space appears to have been undivided indicating its use as storage space rather than accommodation. An outhouse containing a pump, stone trough, and large fireplace with a three-centred wooden lintel arch provided wash-house and baking facilities and is thought to date, by its slightly thinner 45cm walls, to the mid 19th century.



Fig. 20 Winscombe, Dalecroft south elevation (photo John Rickard)